



S. A. D. PUTER ARRESTED IN BOSTON BUT ESCAPES

PUTER DRAWS HIS REVOLVER AND HOLDS CROWD OF MEN AT BAY

Much Wanted Oregon Land Thief Is Arrested But Draws a Revolver and Makes Daring Get Away Through Crowded Streets.

DETECTIVE MAKES VAIN ATTEMPT AT CAPTURE

DETECTIVE BURNS IS WAITING ON STREET FOR ARRIVAL OF POLICE WHEN HIS PRISONER DRAWS GUN—FIGHT ENSUES IN WHICH PUTER MAKES ESCAPE—LARGE CROWD OF SPECTATORS GIVE CHASE.

BOSTON, March 26.—Stephen A. D. Puter, wanted by the United States government in connection with the land frauds in Oregon was arrested here tonight by United States Marshal Burns of Washington, D. C., but after being in custody less than half an hour, Puter drew a revolver and succeeded in escaping.

Burns was detailed by the government to come here and search for Puter. He located him and waited at the Fenway branch postoffice where he learned Puter was in the habit of calling for his mail addressed to "John H. Brownell." Puter agreed to accompany Burns to a private room in the postoffice. Burns understood Superintendent Swift of the branch office had gone for the police, but it developed later that Swift misunderstood Burns, supposing the officers were outside the building Burns placed Puter

under arrest and took him to the sidewalk. After asking a question or two about his removal to Washington, the prisoner suddenly drew a revolver and leveling it at Burns' head exclaimed: "I'll kill you, Burns, if you dare move!"

The crowd about the two men was quite dense, but fell back rapidly at the appearance of the revolver, but Burns, although considerably older than the prisoner jumped at him and pushed up his hand. Puter struggled and succeeded in pointing the muzzle at Burns' breast for the second time. Again the officer closed with him, but could not wrench the weapon away. Puter finally got free from Burns' clasp and gradually backed away with the revolver still pointed at Burns. He suddenly turned and darted down the street followed by the officer and many other persons. The fugitive, however, escaped.

TEN PEOPLE KILLED

Construction Train Drops Into Small Stream.

THE CABOOSE TELESCOPED

River Carries Bridge Away and Relief Trains Are Unable to Reach Wreck Until Hours After—Seven—teen Are Injured.

CASPER, Wyo., March 26.—Melting snow and high water caused the worst wreck in the history of the Wyoming division of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway, when a work train, returning to Casper from the construction camps west of Woolton dropped into a small stream near Natona this morning. Ten are known to be dead and seventeen in-

jured, some fatally. The wreck happened at 5 o'clock as the train was crossing a stream. The engine passed over safely but its weight broke the piling, which had been undermined by the flood of waters and the cars following dropped into the ravine. One coach was filled with Austrian and Italian laborers. This coach was telescoped by a heavy water car following and crushed like an eggshell. Many occupants were caught under wreckage and it was hours before they were taken out. Word was sent to Casper, but it was eighteen hours before relief could be extended to the injured. The weakened condition of the bridges made it unsafe to send a train to the scene and hand cars were pressed into service. Shortly after starting the relief party ran into a snowstorm and had to abandon the cars and proceed afoot. The bridges were repaired as soon as possible and at noon a relief train was sent out and brought back the dead and injured.

TRAIN DERAILED.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 26.—The east-bound Golden State Limited train on the Rock Island railroad due to arrive here at 9 p. m., was derailed at Muncie, Kansas, 8 miles west of here.

CYCLONE IN OKLAHOMA DESTROYS MUCH PROPERTY

GUTHRIE, Okla., March 26.—A special to the Capital from Perry states that three persons sustained perhaps fatal injuries and thousands of dollars in property were destroyed by a cyclone

in the neighborhood of Billings, Okla., Sunday night. Telephone wires are all down and particulars are unobtainable. None of the victims are yet dead according to the latest reports.

TRIES TO ROB STREET CAR

Attempt to Steal Money Foiled By Finns.

THIEF MAKES ESCAPE

Man Tries to Rob Car No 5. in Charge of Motorman Cook.

TWO FINNS EFFECT CAPTURE

Criminal Fights to Escape But is Overcome, Placed on Board Car, When He Again Makes Escape For Good.

A bold attempt was made last night to rob car No. 5 of the Astoria Electric Company, by a man whose identity is as yet unknown. The car on which the attempt was made was in charge of Motorman Edward Cook, and was making its last trip for the night. Shortly after the car left the power house, the would-be robber boarded the car, and took a seat inside. Standing on the rear end of the car were two Finns. It was through them the robber was discovered, captured, and subsequently allowed to go free.

According to the story of Motorman Cook the Finns first observed the man standing at the forward end of the car, and with a pocket knife trying to pry open the change box. With no hesitation the Finns rushed for the fellow, and a fierce struggle ensued. Motorman Cook hearing the noise turned and seeing the struggle rushed to help the Finns, but the fellow proved very active and breaking away from his captors, dashed out the front end of the car, which had been brought to a standstill by the motorman at the corner of Hume and Bond streets.

The Finns, however, did not give up the fight. They rushed out and again caught the thief, before he had proceeded many feet.

The man, however, made a desperate fight, and before he was subdued, had to be knocked almost senseless. "Seeing that the Finns had the fellow," said Motorman Cook last night, "I took my car on, and when I struck Twelfth and Commercial streets, found a policeman, to whom I related the circumstances of the affair, and he at once started down to the scene."

Man Makes Escape.

The finale of the incident occurred when car No. 4 in charge of Motorman Bussing arrived at the place where the two Finns were holding down their captive. A large crowd had collected by this time, and as the car appeared, it was hailed.

The Finns wanted to put the man

aboard the car and convey him to the police station. The prisoner was accordingly brought in the car and guarded by his two captors it hardly seemed possible to escape. The man had been beaten so badly in his struggles to escape, that he was bleeding profusely at the mouth, and his eyes were blackened.

That he had not given up the hope of escape however was quickly shown, for almost before the car had started, the man leaped up, and brushing aside the two guards, dashed out the rear door, and into the night. The two Finns and the crowd outside which had gathered previously took up the chase, and for awhile things were exciting in the neighborhood. The man was fleet-footed and running west down Bond street, disappeared.

A vigorous search was made last night by the police and a number of citizens, but the man could not be found. It is likely that he will be apprehended shortly as a good description has been obtained.

The man was about medium height; had light hair, and wore a dark suit of some mixed material. He lost his hat in the struggle, and this is in the possession of the police. It is said that the man is not a foreigner.

FIRE STARTS IN BARBER SHOP.

TACOMA, March 26.—A Ledger special from Wrangel states fire started in the barber shop of the Pioneer hotel late Saturday night and the entire town was wiped out with the exception of the dock and one store. Thirty-eight houses, composing the town's residence district, were burned to the ground.

HELP WRANGEL VICTIMS.

SEATTLE, March 26.—The officers of the Pacific Steamship Company received a telegram from Juneau this evening stating the people of Juneau have raised twenty tons of provisions for the sufferers at Wrangel and asked the company to allow the steamer Alki to take them thither. The vessel will reach Wrangel tomorrow.

WHIPS THE EDITOR

W. A. Johnson and E. B. Piper of Oregonian Have Fight.

THE LAWYER IS ARRESTED

Declares He Protested Against Oregonian Personalities Against C. F. Adams and J. N. Teal and Was Twice Set Upon, by Four Men.

PORTLAND, March 26.—W. A. Johnson was arrested at noon today on complaint of Edgar B. Piper, managing editor of the Oregonian, who charges the defendant with assault and battery and threats to kill. The warrants, issued from the police court were served on Johnson after he was taken to police headquarters by Detectives Vaughan and Hartman. He was released on cash bonds aggregating \$400, furnished by J. G. Wilson. The police were notified by an employee of the Oregonian about 11 o'clock that a man giving the name of Johnson had wrecked Piper's private office and beaten the editor. Vaughan and Hartman hastened to the scene. There Piper informed them that Johnson had called at the office, abused him because of the attacks made by the paper on Charles F. Adams, president of the Portland Gas Company, and J. N. Teal of the law firm of Teal & Minor, threatened his life and finally assaulted

WOMAN TELLS THE STORY OF A TERRIBLE CRIME

Mrs. Emma Le Doux Arrested in Antioch, California Confesses How and Why the Murder Was Committed--Body Jammed in Trunk.

POLICE ARE HUNTING FOR MALE ACCOMPLICE

WOMAN IS KNOWN IN SAN FRANCISCO TENDERLOIN, AND IT IS SUSPECTED HER FIRST HUSBAND WAS KILLED BY HER FOR INSURANCE—McVICAR ALSO HAD HIS LIFE INSURED IN WOMAN'S FAVOR.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 26.—The mystery connected with the finding of the dead body of Albert N. McVicar in a trunk at the Southern Pacific depot in Stockton Saturday night is practically solved, though a few details of the crime are lacking. The identification of the body yesterday coupled with the fact that the woman who passed as McVicar's wife, but whose real name is Mrs. Emma LeDoux, left Stockton shortly after the tragedy, was followed today by the arrest of the woman at Antioch. She admitted she knew of the murder and in a statement to the justice of the peace declared the actual perpetrator of the crime was a man whom she knew as Joseph Miller. Mrs. LeDoux made the following statement:

"We had all been drinking and McVicar and I were drunk. McVicar had lots of money and Joe Miller gave him carboic acid. Then I don't know just what happened. Miller and I put the body in a trunk and sent it to the depot. I wanted to go right away to my mother at Jackson, but Miller would not let me. He made me go to San Francisco with him Saturday night and Sunday. Last night we left San Francisco with tickets for Stockton. At Richmond Miller left me and went back to San Francisco and I got off here at Antioch."

"Miller got all the money," she continued, "I don't know how much, but he got it. After McVicar was dead I

went out and bought a trunk. Then we went to the Southern Pacific station after he put the body in trunk. I helped him do that."

The local police learned that Mrs. LeDoux was visited in this city Saturday night by Joseph Healy, a plumber, and he admitted to them he did so in response to a telegram from the woman, whom he has known several years. Healy said he visited the woman again on Sunday. She told Healy McVicar died at Sonora and McVicar's brother had shipped the body to Denver. She also told him that McVicar had \$5000 insurance which at one time had been payable to her, but had been transferred to his mother. She said McVicar's brother told her he would get her \$1000 out of it. The police find the motive for the Stockton crime in Healy's reference to the insurance policy. They are now hunting for the woman's alleged accomplice.

Mrs. LeDoux is known in the Redlight district of San Francisco. Her maiden name is Emma Head. Several years ago she married a man named Barrett from whom she separated and then she married a man named Williams, who died under peculiar circumstances. She is said to have collected heavy insurance on him. She later married a Frenchman named LeDoux. At the Stockton hotel the murdered man registered at "A. N. McVicar and wife."

him. Piper's face and one hand showed that he had been in a scuffle.

Johnson's Account Differs.

When Johnson was taken to police headquarters he told a story throwing an entirely different light on the affair. He asserted that Piper and other employees of the paper assaulted him twice and that the arrest was due to his succeeding not only in preventing them from materially injuring him but in punishing several of his assailants.

"The unwarranted and blackguardly attacks made by the Oregonian on Mr. Teal and Mr. Adams, who are friends of mine," said Mr. Johnson, "aroused my ire. I studied the matter over, without saying anything to anybody, and concluded that something should be done to protect them personally. This morn-

ing I went to the Oregonian office and saw Mr. Piper, that meeting ending in the assault on me.

"I was just leaving the office. I got into the elevator and it had started down, when Piper rushed out and called me back, saying that he would like to talk the matter over further. I accompanied him back to his office. Hardly had the door closed on me when Piper and another man attacked me. I thrashed both of them.

"When they drew away I walked out of the office and got on the elevator. After the elevator started one of them yelled to the elevator boy to bring it back. I then got off and started toward the setps, when four or five, including Piper, attacked me. The janitor broke

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TOWN OF WRANGEL ALMOST WIPED OUT BY BIG FIRE

LOS ANGELES, March 26.—A telegram dated Juneau, Alaska, March 26th, from United States District Attorney Boyce to the Times and the Associated Press, states the town of Wrangel was almost

totally destroyed by fire and appeals for help for aid for the sufferers. The dispatch states every store in town was burned and the total loss is \$100,000. The customs house was saved.